

**REQUESTS FOR DATA AND INFORMATION
NOT AVAILABLE AT THE
PICK-SLOAN RATE ADJUSTMENT
PUBLIC INFORMATION FORUMS
July 14-17, 2003**

Denver Forum

1. **QUESTION:** (Tom Graves, Midwest Electric Consumers Association) What has been the growth in the load factor for X/Y customers?

RESPONSE: Between FY 1982 and FY 2002, the winter load factor for the X/Y customers increased from approximately 65% to approximately 71%. The winter load factor is used because that is the load factor that affects the tiered rate calculation. The X/Y customers account for approximately 5% of the energy purchased at greater than 60% load factor.

2. **QUESTION:** (Larry LaMaack, Wyoming Municipal Power Association) Mr. LaMaack requested a breakdown of revenue categories. Mr. LaMaack later clarified his question and asked for a list of future Pick-Sloan irrigation projects because project pumping revenues increase in the future years of the PRS.

RESPONSE: The Fryingpan-Arkansas revenue categories are at the following internet address: <http://www.wapa.gov/rm/rates/F-A%20Exhibit%20C.xls>. The Pick-Sloan revenue categories are at the following internet address: <http://www.wapa.gov/ugp/rates/2004RateAdj/RevenueData.pdf>. The list of future Pick-Sloan irrigation projects is in Note { 11 } of the document at the following internet address: http://www.wapa.gov/ugp/rates/2004RateAdj/IRRIGATION_AID.pdf.

Lincoln Forum

1. **QUESTION:** (Dave Ried, Omaha Public Power District) Why is the current PRS interest rate so high compared to private interest rates?

RESPONSE: The current interest rate calculation as well as the basis for the calculation is at the following web site: <http://www.publicdebt.treas.gov/opd/opdirwpa.htm>.

Sioux Falls Forum

1. **QUESTION:** (Jeff Nelson, East River Electric Power Cooperative) Mr. Nelson asked Western to provide a profile of irrigation transmission Western pays by irrigation project including transmission rates, whether the rate paid is a demand or energy charge, and the amount of units to which the rate is applied.

RESPONSE: This information is at the following internet address: http://www.wapa.gov/ugp/rates/2004RateAdj/Irrigation_Transmission.pdf.

2. **QUESTION:** (Jeff Nelson, East River Electric Power Cooperative) Mr. Nelson asked Western to provide a more comprehensive description of the increase in transmission expenses from the previous rate setting PRS to the current proposed rate setting PRS.

RESPONSE: This information is at the following internet address:

http://www.wapa.gov/ugp/rates/2004RateAdj/Transmission_Exp_Comparison.pdf.

3. **QUESTION:** (Jeff Nelson, East River Electric Power Cooperative) Mr. Nelson asked Western to provide a profile of the changes in generation resources that are the basis for the generation numbers in the tiered rate calculation, especially in the months of March and December. For example, are there operational limitations in some months?

RESPONSE: According to the Corps, the operational limitations in the hydrology model used in the proposed tiered rate calculation (7.23 mills/kWh) do not have a significant impact on the generation output in the winter months. Therefore, the differences in generation resources between the current tiered rate calculation (3.38 mills/kWh) and the proposed tiered rate calculation are a result of other differences in the data.

In the current tiered rate calculation (3.38 mills/kWh), the Corps of Engineers' (Corps) generation data were from the Corps' Missouri River Main Stem Reservoir Regulation Studies, Series 8-83, more commonly known as the 8-83 Study. This study was published in April 1984. The data used in the tiered rate calculation was a projection for the year 1990 using the actual hydrology data from the years 1898 through 1933 and 1943 through 1982. The years 1934 through 1942 were excluded from the model because they were the years of reservoir operation most affected by the twelve years of drought from 1930 through 1941.

The Corps generation data used in the proposed tiered rate calculation (7.23 mills/kWh) is the 99-year average generation from 1898 to 1996 calculated by the Corps' hydrology model using actual hydrology data. Western believed that it would be more accurate to use an average from a later hydrology model because the 8-83 study is nearly 20 years old.

The main differences in the generation data used in the current and the proposed tiered rate calculations are that the years 1934 through 1942 and 1983 through 1996, were included in the proposed rate calculation, and a later hydrology model was used in the proposed rate calculation. The following table summarizes the Corps' generation resources used in the current tiered rate calculation and the proposed tiered rate calculation, as well as average generation from 1898 through 2002 excluding 1934 through 1942.

**CORPS GENERATION SUMMARY
(GWH)**

MONTH	CURRENT TIERED RATE 8-83 STUDY 1990	PROPOSED TIERED RATE 1898-1996 AVERAGE	1898-2002 AVERAGE EXCLUDING 1934-1942
November	837	959	912
December	808	759	765
January	740	732	769
February	639	629	664
March	673	517	632
Total	3,697	3,596	3,742

Fargo Forum

1. **QUESTION:** (Nancy Vyskocil, Lake Region Electric Cooperative) Ms. Vyskocil stated that the current PRS interest rate seems higher than private interest rates and would like to know how the rates are calculated.

RESPONSE: The current interest rate calculation as well as the basis for the calculation is at the following web site: <http://www.publicdebt.treas.gov/opd/opdirwpa.htm>.